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- (C) Whenever the Commissioner, after notice and hearing determines that a person employed by or connected with the League or any member club thereof, has bet money or any other thing of value on the outcome or score of any game or games played in the League, or has had knowledge of or has received an offer, directly or indirectly, to control, fix or bet money or other consideration on the outcome or score of a professional football game, and has failed to report the same in the manner hereinafter prescribed, then such Commissioner shall have complete and unrestricted authority to enforce any or all of the following penalties:
- (1) Suspend such person indefinitely or for a prescribed period of time.
 - (2) Bar such person from the League for life.
- (3) Cancel or terminate the contract of such person in the League or any member club thereof.
- (4) Require the sale of any stock, or other interest of such offending person in any member club by the method and under the procedure specified in Section 3.8 (B) hereof.
- (5) Fine such person in an amount not in excess of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000).
- (6) Cancel or declare to be forfeited any interest in a member club, or in the franchise thereof, owned by any person so involved; in such event, any interest of the offending person so implicated in the club or any stock owned by such person in any member club shall be sold under the procedure provided in Section 3.8 (B) hereof.
- (7) Assign to another club or a member of the League the lease on any stadium or playing field held for or owned by the offending club or by any person owning any interest therein.
- (8) Assign to one or more other clubs players on the Selection or Reserve Lists of the offending club.

(9) Impose such other or additional punishment or dis-

cipline as the Commissioner may decide.

If the person involved is a player in the League, such player is obligated to report immediately such incident to the head coach, owner, or managing officer of the club with which he is affiliated. If the person involved is either an owner, officer, director, stockholder, or a partner of a member club or owns or holds an interest therein, or is a coach or employee, (other than a player) thereof, such report shall be made promptly to the Commissioner. Any decision by the Commissioner under the circumstances referred to in this Section 8.13 (C) shall be final, conclusive, and unappealable; all persons involved in or affected by any such decision agree to release and waive any and all claims arising out of or connected with such decision that such person may now have or hereafter possess against the Commissioner, individually and in his official capacity, as well as against

the League or any officer, or employee thereof, and against every member club therein and any director, officer, shareholder, or partner thereof or against the holder of any interest therein, either for damages or for any other remedy or relief. The word "Person" wherever used in this subparagraph (C) of Article VIII, Section 8.13 shall mean and include a member club, or any club owner, official, officer, stockholder, partner thereof, or anyone holding any interest therein, as well as a coach, player, or other employee thereof; it shall also include an officer or employee of the League or any official employed by the League.

(D) Whenever the Commissioner finds, in his sole and exclusive discretion, that any person whether or not connected or affiliated with the League, or a member club therein, is guilty of conduct detrimental to the best interest of the League or professional football, then in addition to his other powers prescribed in the Constitution and By-Laws of the League, the Commissioner shall have the right to bar and prohibit such person from entry to any stadium or park used by the League, or its member clubs or affiliates for the practice

or exhibition of professional football.

(E) The Commissioner shall have authority to change, reduce, modify, remit, or suspend any fine, suspension, or other discipline imposed by the Commissioner and not requiring approval of the member clubs.

Miscellaneous Powers of Commissioner

- 8.14 (A) The Commissioner shall have the power, without a hearing, to disapprove contracts between a player and a club, if such a contract has been executed in violation of or contrary to the Constitution and By-Laws of the League, or, if either or both of the parties to such contract have been or are guilty of an act or conduct which is or may be detrimental to the League or to the sport of professional football. Any such disapproval of a contract between a player and a club shall be exercised by the Commissioner upon the written notice to the contracting parties within ten (10) days after such contracts are filed with the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall also have the power to disapprove any contract between any club and a player or any other person, at any time pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of Section 8.13 (A) of the Constitution and By-Laws.
- (B) The Commissioner shall have the power to hear and determine disputes between clubs in respect to any matter certified to by him by either or both of the clubs; he shall also have the power to settle and determine any controversy between two clubs which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, involves or affects League policy.
- (C) The Commissioner shall have the right to propose amendments or modifications in the Constitution and By-Laws of the League by submitting such amendments or modifications in writing to the League no less than fifteen (15) days prior to the holding of any Annual Meeting of the League or recessed session thereof.

ARTICLE IX

PROHIBITED CONDUCT

Conflicting Interests and Probibited Conduct

- 9.1 (A) The violation of any of the provisions of this Article IX shall constitute conduct detrimental to the League and professional football.
- (B) No member, or stockholder, officer, director, partner, or employee thereof, and no officer or employee of the League, including a game official, shall:
- (1) Own or have any financial interest directly or indirectly, in any other member club of the League.
- (2) Directly or indirectly, loan money to or become surety or guarantor for any other member club, or any player, coach, or employee thereof, or holder of an interest therein.
- (3) Directly or indirectly, loan money or offer any gift or reward or become surety or guarantor for any game official or other official or employee of the League.
- (4) Act as the contracting agent or representative for any player or share or be financially interested in the compensation of any player in the League. Nothing herein shall prevent any player from negotiating on his own behalf or for his own account.
- (C) No member, nor any stockholder, director, officer, partner, or employee thereof, or person holding an interest therein, nor any officer or employee of the League shall:
- (1) Publicize or participate in the selection of any mythical All-League or All-Opponent team.
- (2) Issue a free ticket of admission to a game to any visiting club or player thereof except pursuant to the Constitution and By-Laws of the League.
- (3) Offer any gift or reward to a player, coach or person connected with or employed by another member club for services promised, rendered or to be rendered in defeating or attempting to defeat a competing club.
- (4) Publicly criticize any member club or its management, personnel, employees, or coaches and/or any football official employed by the League; all complaints or criticism in respect to the foregoing shall be made to the Commissioner only, and shall not be publicized directly or indirectly.
- (5) Directly or indirectly pay a fine for a person who has been penalized.
- (6) Permit or state in any game program, or by means of its public address system or otherwise, that it, he or they, offer

or agree, either directly or indirectly, to pay or give money or any other thing of value to any member of the public: neither shall any club or other person referred to in this Section 9.1 be permitted to participate at any time, directly or indirectly, in any lottery of any kind.

- (7) Own, directly or indirectly, any interest whatsoever in a professional football organization, league, club or team not a member of the League.
- (8) Offer or pay a player or coach, and no player or coach may receive, any bonus, money or thing of value for winning any game played in the League.

No club or any representative thereof shall offer to pay, directly or indirectly, to a player, and no player shall receive, any bonus of any kind unless such bonus provision is attached to and/or incorporated in the contract of such player.

- (9) Fail to present its team at the time and place where it is scheduled to play in a pre-season or regular season game, unless such failure is caused by any unavoidable accident in travel or by conditions beyond the control of the member.
- (10) Tamper with players of college teams who are not eligible for play in the League under the eligibility rules thereof.

Except for at the sites of post-season college all-star games, member clubs may not time or test college players other than on the campus of the player or at his place of residence. Any compensation and/or transportation provided to player or coach of player shall be considered conduct detrimental to football.

College players eligible for the annual Selection Meeting may be given a physical examination by a member club, provided the examination does not include physical activity of any type such as agility drills and running; provided the player is not compensated in any way beyond travel and lodging expenses; and provided such examination takes place after the completion of all football games, including post-season bowl games in which the team of the school or college of such player is to participate as a member of his college team. The Commissioner must be notified by the club of all such examinations prior to the physical. Physical examinations shall be the only reason for a member club to bring in a draft-eligible player to its city and/or training facilities prior to the Selection Meeting.

- (11) Tamper with a player or coaches or other employees under contract to or the property of another member club.
- (12) Offer, agree, conspire, or attempt to illegally influence the outcome of the member or fail to suspend immediately any officer or player or other employee of the member who shall be proven guilty of offering, agreeing, conspiring, or attempting to influence the outcome of any game or be interested in any pool or wager of any game in which a member club participates.

- (13) No beer or other beverage may be dispensed in NFL stadia except by being poured into cups.
- (14) Any use by any club at any time, from the start to the finish of any game in which such club is a participant, of any communications or information gathering equipment, other than Polaroid-type cameras or field telephones, shall be prohibited, including without limitation video tape machines, telephone tapping or bugging devices, or any other form of electronic device that might aid a team during the playing of a game.
- (15) In respect to minor league clubs and the Canadian Football League, the following prohibitions shall apply to all clubs in the League:
- (a) No club in the League shall own or have any financial interest, directly or indirectly, in any minor league club.
- (b) No club in the League shall, directly or indirectly, loan money to, nor make a gift or contribution to, nor become a surety or guarantor for any minor league club or for any player, coach, employee, owner, stockholder, officer, director or partner therein, or to any holder of any interest in any minor league club.
- (c) The restrictions on the clubs in this League as set out in this sub-paragraph and (a), and (b) above, shall likewise apply to all owners, stockholders, officers, directors, partners, agents, representatives, or employees of clubs in the League as well as to any other person owning any interest in any club in this League.

A "minor league club" shall include any professional football club not a member of this League, which has been designated by the Commissioner of this League as a minor league club.

- Should any club in this League violate the provisions of this 9.1 (C) (15), then, in addition to all other remedies available to the Commissioner under this Constitution and By-Laws, such club guilty of such violation shall not have the right to employ as a football player any player who was under contract to or played for such minor league club at the time of any such violation.
- (D) No player, coach or manager shall, directly or indirectly, own stock or have any financial interest in the ownership or earnings of any member club of the League, other than in the member club with whom he is employed, and then only under any agreement approved by the Executive Committee stipulating for the immediate sale (and the terms thereof) of such stock or financial interest therein in the event of his transfer to, employment by, or association with another member club. A player, coach, or manager financially interested in another member club shall be ineligible to play for, coach or manage the club of any other member while, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, such interest is retained by or for him, directly or indirectly.

- (E) No player, coach, manager or owner may remove his team, nor order his team removed, from the field during the playing of a game, regular or pre-season, except at the direction of the referee. Should any club in this League violate the provisions of this subsection 9.1 (E), then in addition to all other remedies available to the Commissioner under this Constitution and By-Laws, such club guilty of such violation shall face possible forfeiture of any victory or tie achieved in such game and in addition incur sole liability for financial losses suffered by the opposing team and any other member clubs so affected. All such determinations shall be made by the Commissioner.
- (F) No member shall place its TWX machine in an area to which non-club personnel has access.

Tam pering

9.2 If a member club or any officer, shareholder, director, partner, employee, agent or representative thereof, or any person holding an interest in said club shall tamper, negotiate with, or make an offer to a player on the Active, Reserve or Selection List of another member club, then unless the offending club shall clearly prove to the Commissioner that such action was unintentional, the offending club, in addition to being subject to all other penalties provided in the Constitution and By-Laws, shall lose its selection choice in the next succeeding Selection Meeting in the same round in which the affected player was originally selected in the Selection Meeting in which he was originally chosen. If such affected player was never selected in any Selection Meeting, the Commissioner shall determine the round in which the offending club shall lose its selection choice. Additionally, if the Commissioner decided such offense was intentional, the Commissioner shall have the power to fine the offending club and may award the offended club 50% of the amount of the fine imposed by the Commissioner. In all such cases the offended club must first certify to the Commissioner that such an offense has been committed.

Additional Restrictions

- 9.3 (A) (1) No coach, or administrative or supervisory employee, as hereinafter defined, may be employed by any member club of the League without the prior approval of the Commissioner. All coaches must have a written contract: such contract shall be filed in the League Office promptly following execution, and the terms thereof must be approved by the Commissioner: an administrator or supervisory employee, for the purpose of this section, shall mean a general manager or any assistant to the president or executive officer of the club.
- (2) Every contract with any employee of the League or of a club therein shall contain a clause wherein the employee agrees to abide and be legally bound by the Consitution, By-Laws and the

Rules and Regulations of the League, as well as by the decisions of the Commissioner thereof, which decision shall be final, conclusive and unappealable; such contract shall provide further that the contracting parties, if involved or affected in any manner by a decision of the Commissioner, agree to release the Commissioner and to waive every claim he, they or it have against the Commissioner individually, and in his official capacity, as well as against the League, each and every member club thereof, and any and all directors, officers, stockholders, partners, or holders of an interest therein, for damages and for any other claims or demands arising out of or connected with any decision of the Commissioner. Every written employment contract with any non-player employee of a club shall be filed in the League Office promptly following its execution, and shall provide: that such contract sets forth the entire agreement between the parties; that no oral agreements, and no other written agreements except as are attached to the contract or specifically incorporated by reference therein, exist between them; that such written contract (including agreements attached thereto or incorporated therein) sets forth the entire agreement with respect to the employee's services for the club; and that neither party will rely on any agreement or understanding not reduced to writing and specifically incorporated into such employment contract prior to its execution or when subsequently amended.

- (B) (1) A veteran player must be paid a full game current season salary and a first-year player a half-game salary for playing in the Chicago Tribune All-Star Game.
- (2) Any player, eligible to participate as a member of the League championship team, who is traded or sold to another club prior to the Chicago Tribune All-Star Game in the succeeding season must be paid one-half of his game salary for the Chicago Tribune All-Star Game by the League championship club; such salary shall be calculated on the basis of the salary in effect at the time of the trade or sale. If such player is waived by the championship club and then claimed by another club, then the claiming club, if awarded the player, must pay such player the one-half game salary such player would have received for such All-Star Game, if he had not been waived; such salary shall be calculated on the basis of the salary in effect at the time said player was waived.
- (C) No owner or person holding any interest in a member club, nor any officer, stockholder, director or partner thereof, nor any officer or employee of the League or a member club thereof, shall enter the dressing room of a game official.
- (D) Subject to the provisions of Section 17.11 hereof, for purposes of this sub-section, a player shall be deemed to be an "active member of the Armed Forces" until he is discharged therefrom or listed as a reserve member of the Armed Forces. No active member of the Armed Forces may play or practice with a club in the League, subject to the following limitations:

- (1) In the event of a declaration of war, the Commissioner has the right to suspend this requirement for the duration thereof.
- (2) This provision shall not apply to participation in the Chicago All-Star Game, nor to any pre-season games.
- (3) This provision shall not apply to any player who has been given a conditional release from the Armed Forces or is on terminal leave.
- (4) Active members of the Armed Forces may play or practice with a club provided:
- (i) The club, at the time the player is inducted into the Armed Forces of the United States, continues to carry such player as one of its active players and notifies the Commissioner to that effect at the time of said induction; and
- (ii) Such player receives permission from his commanding officer in the military service to play or practice with such club.
- (E) No club, nor any coach, representative or employee thereof, shall use or employ any mechanical or other equipment or device in connection with the staging or playing of any game, except such as has been normally and commonly used in games in former seasons in the League; no electronic magnifiers or loud speaker systems may be used or employed either from the stands, bench or sidelines to impart any information or instructions to players engaged in play on the field, but such instruction or information shall only be given orally or through substitution.
- (F) No films of prior games shall be shown or displayed on or by means of television other than complete game films; such film shall not be stopped during any showing; provided, however that in the staging of a regular quarterback show of a club, clips or portions of game films may be shown. In connection with the showing of films, no employee, officer, owner or representative of a club shall make any comment or express any opinion, publicly or for publication, on the quality of the officiating or that any play shown was or was not illegal.
- (G) No bonus may be paid to a player or players for winning a particular game; neither may remuneration or gifts of any kind other than those listed in the contract of a player, be announced, promised, or paid directly or indirectly by a member club, or by any person connected with or employed by a club.
- (H) No blanket remuneration or bonuses shall be paid or given to players at any time.
- (I) Players under contract shall not be required to report to training camp prior to the Friday immediately preceding the Sunday that is nine weeks before the opening regular season game, except

that the team participating in the Chicago Tribune All-Star Game shall be permitted to conduct its practice sessions in accordance with the provisions of the agreement covering the playing of the game. There shall be no contact work prior to the official opening of training camp. Use of pads is prohibited.

(J) All clubs must pay the travel expense of the players to training camp, and if the player thereafter is included on the Active List of the club for the first regular season game, travel expenses to training camp for that player, if previously paid, may be deducted from the salary of the player. If a player is waived out, then the waiving club shall pay the travel expenses of the player for the return trip to his house, provided, however, that if the player is claimed by another club under waivers, or is sold or traded, then the club acquiring the player shall pay the travel expenses of such player incurred in connection with reporting to the new club.

ARTICLE X BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION

Contract Conditions

10.1 Any contract entered into by any club for telecasting or broadcasting its games, and the sponsor or sponsors of each game telecast or broadcast pursuant to such a contract, must be approved in writing by the Commissioner in advance of such telecast or broadcast.

Television Restrictions

10.2 Subject to the limitations and exceptions set forth in this article, member clubs participating in any game are authorized to telecast and broadcast such game anywhere except as follows:

(a) No club shall cause or permit a game in which it is engaged to be telecast into any area included within the home territory of any other club on the day that such other club is engaged in playing a game at home.

(b) No telecast of a home game within the home territory of a club shall be caused or permitted, except by agreement between the participating clubs.

(c) Each home club grants to the visiting club the exclusive right to permit or license the telecast of the game being played between them back to the home territory of the visiting club.

The Commissioner will not approve any contracts that do not contain a provision stating that the contract is subject to Article X as now or hereafter in effect.

Television Income

10.3 All regular season (and pre-season network) television income will be divided equally among all member clubs of the League regard-

less of the source of such income, except that the member clubs may, by unanimous agreement, provide otherwise in a specific television contract or contracts.

Network Provisions

10.4 In any network television contract in effect in the League

after 1970 the following provisions shall apply:

(a) Each regular season road game of the New York Giants, New York Jets, Oakland Raiders and San Francisco 49ers will be televised live back to the home territory of the club participating in the road game.

- (b) Every effort shall be made to avoid direct conflicts between the television of road games of either the New York Giants or New York Jets and any home game of either club.
- (c) Without the prior consent of the home team no road game of either the Oakland Raiders or the San Francisco 49ers respectively may be televised back to the home territory of the other club on any day when the other club is playing a game at home.

Championship Games

10.5 The sale of radio and television and film rights for the World and Conference Championship Games shall be under the sole jurisdiction of the Commissioner and be subject to the provisions of Article X.

In the World and Conference Championship Games:

- (1) The participating clubs may broadcast by radio on a non-exclusive basis from a station located in its home territory; provided, (a) said club contributes to the gross receipts of the game (to be divided in the same manner as game receipts are distributed) a fair and equitable sum fixed by the Commissioner in his role and absolute discretion; and (b) provided the Commissioner approves all sponsors and broadcasters involved in the game.
- (2) No television station may carry or broadcast the game if its signal is visible in the home territory (75 miles) of the home club in the city where the game is being played. The Commissioner's decision in this matter shall be final.

Broadcast Facilities

10.6 Each club when playing at home shall provide adequate space for use of the visiting club in telecasting and/or broadcasting each game.

Player Depiction and Club Promotion

10.7 The player grants to the club controlling his contract and to the League severally and jointly, the privilege and authority to use

his name and/or picture for publicity and/or advertising purposes in newspapers, magazines, motion pictures, game programs and annual roster manuals, radio material, television telecast, and all other publicity and/or advertising media providing such publicity and/or advertising does not in itself constitute an endorsement by that individual player of a commercial product.

Judgment

10.8 All provisions of Article X are intended to conform to and are subject to the Final Judgment of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania entered December 28, 1953, and as thereafter modified, against the National Football League and certain of its member clubs; in the event of any conflict between the Constitution and By-Laws and said judgment, the provisions of said Final Judgment, as modified, shall prevail.

ARTICLE XI PLAYING RULES

Official Rules

11.1 The playing rules of the League shall be those set out in the National Football League Rules Book.

Amendment of Rules

11.2 Playing rules may be amended or changed at any Annual Meeting by the affirmative vote of not less than three-fourths or 20, whichever is greater, of the members of the League, provided the proposed amendment or change has been presented to the League in writing fifteen (15) days prior to the Annual Meeting or a recessed session thereof, or provided the proposed amendment or change carries the unanimous approval of a duly appointed standing committee of the League vested with the authority to make a recommendation on proposed playing rules changes, in which case notice of at least 12 hours prior to the vote is required; otherwise unanimous consent is required for any amendment to the Playing Rules.

Rules Committee

11.3 Each member club of the League shall have one representative only on the Rules Committee.

ARTICLE XII ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

General Rules of Eligibility

12.1 (A) No person shall be eligible to play or be selected as a player unless (1) all college football eligibility of such player has

expired, or (2) at least five (5) years shall have elapsed since the player first entered or attended a recognized junior college, college, or university, or (3) such player receives a diploma from a recognized college or university prior to September 1st of the next football season of the League. The expression "recognized junior college, college or university" shall be interpreted to mean any college listed in the Blue Book of College Athletics or Blue Book of Junior College Athletics, published by The Rohrich Corporation, 1940 East 6th Street, Cleveland, Ohio and/or the Education Directory, Higher Education, Office of Education, U.S. Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, D.C.

The fact that a player has college eligibility remaining in another sport other than football shall not affect his eligibility under this section provided the player meets all other qualifications hereunder. Any player with college football eligibility remaining in accordance with the foregoing provisions hereof shall not be eligible to be selected unless such player gives written notice to the Commissioner of his intention on or before January 15th in that year stating his intention to graduate before the fall semester. Any player who fails to give such notice to graduate and then does graduate prior to the fall semester, cannot be signed to any contract; such players shall be selected in a separate selection meeting at a time and place fixed by the Commissioner, the order of selection to be determined either by lot or some other method prescribed by the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall have the right to change the date of January 15th above referred to, if, in his opinion, such change is necessary to properly conduct the selection meeting.

Despite the foregoing, if four college football seasons shall have elapsed since the player first entered or attended college and, if such player did not at any time during such period, participate in college football, such player shall be eligible for selection.

Special consideration shall be granted to those players whose college and/or conference allow five years of football eligibility, during all of which the player may participate full-time, as distinguished from those who "red-shirt," i.e., do not participate during one particular year. If a player under the circumstances described above has completed four years of participating football eligibility and elects not to avail himself of his fifth year, such player shall be eligible for selection in this League.

(B) No player may be signed to a contract or any other document (including a letter of intent), directly or indirectly, until completion of all football games, including post season bowl games in which the team of the school or college of such player is to participate and in which the player is to participate; such provision shall also apply to college football players competing in football in any season ending after that date when the original class of such player

shall have been graduated. If a club violates this section, it shall be subject to punishment by the Commissioner; such punishment shall provide for the loss of selection choices of the offending club in the next or in succeeding Selection Meetings up to and including the entire Selection List. All negotiating rights to the player or players so involved shall be awarded to the club lowest in the League standings, excluding the offending club, at the time of the last Selection Meeting.

- (C) A diploma of graduation issued by a recognized college or university to a student under an accelerated course or program shall be acceptable for eligibility purposes despite the fact that the student actually attended such institution for a period of less than four (4) years.
- (D) No free agent with college athletic eligibility remaining, who registers at a college for the fall term or semester may be signed to a contract by a club in the League until the close of the next succeeding Selection Meeting of the League at which meeting he would be eligible for selection.
- (E) No person who plays college footban after the opening date of the training season in any year may play football in the League during the balance of the same calendar year.
- (F) No person eligible for the Selection Meeting in any calendar year may be signed to a contract with a club in the League until the Selection Meeting in that year.
- Selection List of a League club, shall be a member of the team of that club until the Commissioner receives notice from such club that other League clubs are free to negotiate or contract with said player. Upon receipt of any such notice, the Commissioner shall promptly notify each other League club thereof. Until the notice is given by the Commissioner, no other club may sign a contract nor negotiate with such player unless prior written permission thereof has been given by the club owning rights to such player.
- (H) Any player, whose contract with a League club has expired, shall thereupon become a free agent and shall no longer be considered a member of the team of that club following the expiration date of such contract. Whenever a player, becoming a free agent in such manner, thereafter signed a contract with a different club in the League, then, unless mutually satisfactory arrangements have been concluded between the two League clubs, the Commissioner may name and then award to the former club one or more players, from the Active, Reserve, or Selection List (including future selection choices) of the acquiring club as the Commissioner in his sole discretion deems fair and equitable; any such decision by the Commissioner shall be final and conclusive.

Rules and Regulations

- 12.2 (A) A club, at its option, may adopt individual club rules and regulations not inconsistent with or contrary to the Constitution and By-Laws of the League and/or the Rules and Regulations of the League. The club shall give the player reasonable notice of all rules and regulations adopted by the club. Any club adopting rules and regulations may suspend and/or fine a player for violation thereof.
- (B) The League may adopt League rules and regulations, and any rules and regulations so adopted must be printed on the reverse side of the standard form of player contract used by the League.

Restriction on Play by Other Employees

- 12.3 (A) No person employed by a club as a coach, trainer or in any capacity other than as a player, may play for that club or any other club in that same year unless said employee is:
 - (1) Signed to a current year Standard Player Contract, and
 - (2) Counted within the 60-man applicable player limit, and
- (3) Subsequently released in the same calendar year in which the club wishes to activate him, subject to all other provisions of this Constitution and By-Laws, and
- (4) Counted within the applicable player limit at 4:00 p.m., New York Time, on the Thursday prior to the opening of the regular season and at all times thereafter throughout the regular season.
- (B) Whenever a player under contract or option to a member club in the League fails to report to that club prior to its first regular season game, then such player, without the prior consent of the Commissioner, may not play with any club in the League during that same season if said player played in any other league, or with any other team other than in or for the League during that same calendar year, unless such other league or other club in which or for whom such player played is designated by the Commissioner of the League as a minor league; the decision of the Commissioner shall be final.
- (C) Whenever a player has played or coached football in Canada during any season either while as a free agent or as a member of the Reserve List of but not under contract to a member club in the League, then such player may not play for any club in the League during the same calendar year.
- (D) Any player who had played or participated in football in Canada while under contract or option as a member of the Reserve List of any club in the League, and who did not report or was not listed as an Active player of the Club at the time of the first pre-season game of such club, may not play with any club in the League during that same season, regardless of the circumstances thereof.

- (E) No player under contract to a club in the League shall be permitted to participate in any football game for or against any team, group or organization outside the League, except in games officially approved and sanctioned by the League.
- (F) (1) If a player reports to the club at its training camp and/or, in the case of rookie players, at a club training session prior to official training camp and is, in the opinion of the club physician, physically unable to perform his services as a player, then the club may do the following:

(a) Waive the player with the designation "Failed

Physical," or

- (b) Count the player within the applicable player limit, such player being subject to all rules governing movement between the Active and Inactive Lists, and such player allowed to participate in practice and games as soon as physically able, or
- (c) Place the player on Reserve as Physically Unable to Perform and hold the player out of all practice until October 15, on which date and all dates thereafter through November 1 the player may resume practice with the club without counting within the applicable player limit. Clubs must report the resumption of practice by such players to the League Office on or before the date of practice. After a maximum of two weeks of practice, the club must:
- (i) Keep the player on Reserve as Physically Unable to Perform for the remainder of the season, or
- (ii) Activate the player, with no player allowed to be activated under these circumstances during the last 30 days of the season, or
 - (iii) Waive the player with no right of recall, or
 - (iv) Trade the player if trading period is still in

effect.

No player on Reserve as Physically Unable to Perform may be traded to another club until October 15 of any year, and such traded player must immediately be counted within the applicable player limit of the acquiring club. Provisions of Section 17.7 (A) of this Constitution and By-Laws will not apply to such traded player.

(2) If a player reports to a club at its training camp and passes the club's physical, then later suffers an injury unrelated to football, the club may place him on Reserve as Non-Football Injury or Illness (N-F/I). Said player must remain on Reserve through the duration of the playing season, including any post-season games in which his team plays, unless said player is placed on no-recall waivers. If placed on Reserve (N-F/I), such player is subject to all rules governing participation in practice by a player on Injured Reserve under 17.7 (B). If placed on the Inactive List and Suspended, or placed on Reserve (N-F/I), player shall not be entitled to compensation.

(3) The club may also use the designation N-F/I for a player who fails the training camp physical, but said player will be governed by the provisions of 12.3 (F) (1). Player shall not be entitled to compensation.

Tryouts

- 12.4 (A) After the first regular season game and for the remainder of the regular season a member club desiring to try out a player seeking employment with that club may do so on one day only and only if the date of his presence with that club is reported by TWX to the League Office prior to the completion of such tryout. Pads are prohibited in tryouts, and the involved player or players shall not be on the club's practice field at the same time as regular practice is being conducted and shall not engage in regular drills with the active roster. Multiple tryouts of the same player in the same season by a club are prohibited unless, following the most recent tryout, the player is placed under contract and released by another club in the League. Nothing in this sub-section is to be interpreted in any way as a modification of Section 17.5 (B) of this Constitution and By-Laws and therefore such player may not participate in practice with the playing squad. No remuneration of any kind, except normal travel and lodging expenses may be paid to such player while not under contract. Players tried out under this rule are not subject to the provisions of Section 17.5 (C) which restrict the return to a former club.
- (B) A player on the Reserve List of a member club may, with the permission of that member club, try out with another member club on one day only and only if the club granting permission notifies the Commissioner's Office of such permission by TWX and the Commissioner's Office, in turn, notifies each member club in advance of such tryout through the daily notice that such permission has been granted. Subsequently the club conducting the tryout must notify the Commissioner's Office by TWX of the date of the player's presence with that club prior to the completion of such tryout.

ARTICLE XIII S C H E D U L E

Preparation

13.1 The Commissioner shall draft a schedule and forward the same to the member clubs as soon as possible after the World Championship Game; such schedule shall constitute the official schedule for the regular season games of each member club of the League and shall not require any consent nor approval by the member clubs.

Conditions

13.2 The following conditions shall govern and apply in the drafting of the schedule each year, namely,

- (a) Whenever reference is made to a Green Bay home game, it is understood that such home game may be scheduled at either Green Bay or Milwaukee subject to the approval of the Commissioner.
- (b) Without the consent of the affected clubs, neither the New York Giants, New York Jets, Oakland Raiders, nor the San Francisco 49ers shall be required to play any regular season home games on days other than Sundays, nor will any of such clubs be required to play more regular season games on the road than at home.
- (c) The San Francisco 49ers and Oakland Raiders will not be required to play any regular season game at home on the same day without the consent of both clubs.
- (d) The San Francisco 49ers and Oakland Raiders will not be required to play the same opponent at home on successive weekends without the consent of both clubs.
- (e) Commencing in 1970 there will be established a regular pattern of games between the two conferences; clubs shall be rotated annually with the original rotation to be established by the Commissioner.
- (f) Commencing in 1970 a club in a four-team division in each conference shall play home and home with each club in its own division and five (5) games with clubs in the other divisions of its conference, and three (3) games each year with clubs of the other conference; despite the foregoing, the Denver club, for a period of five (5) years commencing in 1970, will play four (4) games with clubs in the other conference. If the Denver club should move from a four-team division to a five-team division within such five-year period, it shall thereafter play three (3) games with clubs of the other conference each year.
- (g) Clubs in a five-team division shall play home and home with each club in its own division each year, and three (3) games each year with teams in the other divisions of its conference and three (3) games each year with teams of the other conference.
- (h) In establishing the scheduling formula for the intra-conference rotation among clubs commencing in 1970, the following method shall be used:
- (1) A separate alphabetical letter shall be assigned to each club in each division by a method determined by the Commissioner.
- (2) Having made the designations specified in ¶1 above, each year clubs in each four-team division shall play three (3) other clubs in the other four-team division in its conference, and shall play two (2) games with two (2) other clubs in the five-team division in its conference.

Clubs in the five-team division of each conference shall play two (2) games with two (2) clubs in one of the four-team

divisions in its conference, and one game with one club in the other four-team division; the following year such arrangement shall be reversed and then alternated thereafter.

Nothing herein contained shall affect the special provisions involving the Denver club set out in Section 13.2 (f) above.

- (i) The scheduling formula for inter-conference games each year shall be in accordance with the following format:
- (1) Each of the 26 clubs in the League shall be assigned an alphabetical letter by a method to be pre-determined by the Commissioner. Following such alphabetical letter assignment, the 13 clubs in each conference shall be listed alphabetically in separate parallel columns; then, in the year 1970, each of the 13 clubs in one conference shall play the clubs in the other conference in this manner: the three (3) clubs in the other conference shall consist of the club listed directly opposite each club, directly above it and directly below it in the parallel column of the opposing conference.
- (2) In the next year, the list of clubs in the column in one conference will be rotated by removing the three (3) clubs originally listed at the top of the column and placing such three (3) clubs at the bottom of such conference column. The remaining ten (10) clubs on such conference column will be moved up three positions in the column; then the same method used in \$1 above for determining the three (3) clubs to be played by each club of the other conference listed in the opposite column that year will be applied.
- (3) Such system will be repeated annually with the same conference column being rotated each year by the method prescribed in 92 above; such rotation so determined shall be continued indefinitely and repeated continuously.
- (j) Other language in this Article XIII to the contrary notwithstanding, for the seasons 1976 and 1977, Seattle and Tampa Bay will play a round-robin schedule, playing each other plus the other 13 teams in their respective conferences. For 1976, Seattle will be aligned in the Western Division of the National Football Conference and Tampa Bay in the Western Division of the American Football Conference; for 1977, Seattle will be aligned in the Central Division of the American Football Conference and Tampa Bay in the Central Division of the National Football Conference.

Schedule Adjustments

13.3 (A) In the event a member club ceases operating and a new franchise is then issued by the League to a new member club to replace such former member, the new member shall be obligated to perform under the same schedule in effect at the time the former club ceases operations, whether or not the franchise issued to the new member is to be operated in the same city as the former franchise holder.

(B) In the event a member club shall cease operations and the League does not replace such franchise by issuing a new franchise or by the transfer of the former franchise, the Commissioner is empowered to make whatever adjustments in the schedule as he in his sole discretion decides are necessary, and all member clubs shall be bound thereby.

Change in Site

13.4 When a game is scheduled in a stadium used for baseball, the Commissioner shall have the right to change the site of the game, whenever he concludes such action is necessary by reason of the probable participation of the baseball club in the post-season playoffs and/or World Series; in such event, the visiting club will be reimbursed by the League for any extra travel expense incurred because of such change, and the home club will be compensated by the League for any loss of revenue suffered by it as a result of such change in the site of the game. The Commissioner's decision shall be final and binding upon both of the affected clubs in respect to the need for and amount of any such compensation or reimbursement.

ARTICLE XIV

SELECTION MEETING

- 14.1 A Selection Meeting of the League shall be held on the second Tuesday following the playing of the last post-season game: there shall be only one Selection Meeting each year. The Commissioner shall preside at the Selection Meeting and is empowered to settle any dispute or controversy involving or occurring in the Selection Meeting not otherwise covered by provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws of the League.
- 14.2 The only players eligible to be selected in any Selection Meeting shall be those players who fulfill the eligibility standards prescribed in Article XII, S12.1 of the Constitution and By-Laws of the League.
- 14.3 (A) At each Selection Meeting each club participating therein, shall select players of its own choice; selection shall be made by the clubs in each round in the reverse order of their standing.
- (B) Reference in this article to "standing" shall mean the standing of the clubs in the League in regular season games at the time of the Selection Meeting. In calculating the percentage, tie games shall be calculated as one-half game won and one-half game lost. To determine the percentage, the total number of winning games, including any fractions thereof to account for ties, shall be divided by the total number of games played in the regular season; provided, however, that the winner of the World Championship Game shall select last, and the loser of such game shall select next to last in all rounds

regardless of the record of such participating clubs in the regular season. If, after the above method has been applied, clubs are tied for selection order, such ties will be broken by figuring the aggregate won-lost percentage of each involved club's regular season opponents and awarding preferential selection order to the club which faced the schedule of teams with the lowest aggregate won-lost percentage. If, after this method has been applied, ties still remain, they shall be broken by coin flip conducted by the Commissioner.

- (C) One player shall be selected on each round by each club participating in that round.
- (D) There shall be seventeen (17) selection rounds at each meeting.

Selecting Ineligible Player

14.4 If any club selects an ineligible player, such club shall lose the right to that player and to the selection choice for that year.

Reserve List-Selectees

14.5 The selecting club shall have the exclusive right to negotiate for the services of each player selected by it in the Selection Meeting. Selected players shall be placed on the Reserve List of that club.

Selectee Returning To College

14.6 Any player eligible for selection at the Selection Meeting who is not selected, shall be eligible to sign with any club in the League; provided, however, that if any eligible selectee not chosen possesses additional college eligibility and thereafter attends college in the fall semester following the Selection Meeting, such player may not be signed by any club until after the close of the next succeeding Selection Meeting at which time he is eligible for selection.

League Policy On Playing With Another Club

14.7 The League reaffirms the resolution passed unanimously in May 1935, and which has been in effect in the operations of the League since that time by adding the following action:

If for any valid reason it would be impossible for a player to play in the city by which he has been selected, or the player can show reasonable cause why he should be permitted to play in a city other than that designated for him, then through such arrangements as can be made by sale or trade with another club, he shall be permitted to play in the city he prefers if the Commissioner of the League approves his reasons as valid.

ARTICLE XV

PLAYER CONTRACTS

Standard Player Contract

15.1 All contracts between clubs and players shall be executed in triplicate and be in the form adopted by the member clubs of the League; such contract shall be known as the "Standard Players Contract". Subject to the provisions of Section 9.1(C)(8) hereof, a club may delete portions of or otherwise amend the Standard Players Contract subject to the right of the Commissioner to disapprove the same, as provided by Section 15.4 hereof.

Amendment of Standard Player Contract

- 15.2 (A) The form of Standard Players Contract adopted by the League may be amended at any time by the affirmative vote or written consent of not less than three-fourths or 20, whichever is greater, of the member clubs of the League; provided, however, that in the event of an amendment to the Standard Player Contract, or should a new Standard Player Contract be adopted by the League, such action shall in no manner affect, change, modify or terminate any of the terms or provisions of any unexpired Standard Player Contract then in effect between a player and a club in the League.
- (B) All valid unexpired player contracts, including options for extensions thereof, signed in the NFL or AFL prior to Feb. 1, 1970, and in effect on that date, shall remain in full force and effect in accordance with the terms thereof, until the terms of such contracts shall expire, despite the fact that the provisions thereof may differ from the Uniform Players Contract adopted by this League for use in their 1970 or in succeeding seasons.

Filing

15.3 An executed copy of each player contract must be filed with the Commissioner within ten (10) days after the execution thereof. The Commissioner's office shall stamp the time of receipt upon all contracts immediately upon the filing with the Commissioner. All other documents required to be filed with the Commissioner shall likewise be stamped immediately upon receipt thereof. Contracts in effect at the date of the adoption of the Constitution and By-Laws shall not be affected by the foregoing provision if such contracts had been previously executed and filed in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the League at the time of execution and filing.

Disapproval

15.4 The Commissioner shall have the power to disapprove any contract between a player and a club executed in violation of or contrary to the Constitution and By-Laws of the League, or if either

contracting party is or has been guilty of conduct detrimental to the League or to professional football. Any such disapproval of a player contract must be exercised by the Commissioner within ten (10) days after such contract is filed with the Commissioner.

Promulgation

15.5 The Commissioner shall notify all clubs from time to time of the execution of player contracts.

Prerequisite To Play and Practice

- 15.6 No club shall permit a player in any practice session or game, subject to the tryout provisions of Sections 12.4 (A) & (B), with its team unless:
- (a) A Standard Player Contract has been executed between the player and a club or the Player Contract has been properly assigned to the club, and
- (b) Such contract or assignment is on file in the League Office or the League Office has been notified by telegram or TWX of the execution of a contract or assignment.

Minimum Salary and Training Expenses

- 15.7 The minimum first-year income for a selected player shall be \$12,000.
- 15.8 In addition to the salary stipulated in ¶3 of his contract, each player shall, during the training season, be paid an allowance for expenses to be determined by the club.

ARTICLE XVI

ASSIGNMENT OF PLAYER CONTRACTS

Assignment Notice

16.1 All assignments of player contracts (through trade, waiver or otherwise) shall be documented by the assignor club with execution of a notice to the player in a form prescribed by the Commissioner. Such form will be in quadruplicate, with appropriate copies delivered to the player, the Commissioner and the assignee club, and a copy retained by the assignor club.

Player Responsibility

16.2 Immediately following any assignment the player shall report to the assignee club as promptly as possible and shall perform services with the assignee club as prescribed in said contract.

Salary Liability

16.3 The assignor club shall be liable for such proportion of the player's salary for the season as the number of the applicable League games of the assignor club's regular season elapsed up to and including the date of assignment bears to the total number of games in the assignor club's regular season; provided, however, that whenever such assignment involves a player claimed as a result of a waiver, then the allocation of salary shall be subject to the provisions of S18.8 hereof. The assignee club shall be liable for the balance of the player's salary subject also to the provisions of S18.8 in respect to players acquired through waiver. For the purposes of this section, the date of assignment shall be deemed to be the date on which notice of assignment is delivered to the Commissioner as prescribed in S16.2 hereof, or the date when the player was notified orally of such assignment by an authorized member of the assignor club, whichever occurs first. In the event of a dispute as to whether or not oral notice of the assignment has been given by the assignor club, the burden of proving shall rest with the assignor club.

Waivers

- 16.4 (A) If waivers are required for assignment of a player's contract, no assignment shall be effected and no notice of assignment shall be delivered to the player unless and until the club has been advised by the Commissioner that waivers have been granted by all clubs entitled to claim the player under the waiver rules.
- (B) Whenever a club has been awarded a player through waivers, such club acquires all rights to the player owned or possessed by the waiving club, including any rights to the player's services for a succeeding season or seasons and, subject to the provisions of S18.8 hereof, the claiming club likewise assumes all obligations under such contract or contracts.

Promulgation

16.5 All assignments shall be promulgated by the Commissioner through bulletins sent to each club.

Trading Deadline

16.6 No club shall assign a player contract through trade after 4:00 P.M., New York time, of the day following the time when all clubs in the League shall have played their sixth regular season game and for the balance of that regular season and post-season up to and including the World Championship Game. The restrictions on trading under this section shall apply to players on the Active List, the Reserve List, players who have been de-activated to the Inactive List, players who have been waived injured and are on the Inactive List, but shall not be applicable to other players on the Inactive List.

Trading Back

- 16.7 (A) Whenever a player is sold or traded to another club in the League, such player may not be sold or traded back to the original selling or trading club unless such player has either:
- (1) Been on the Active or Reserve List of the club to which he was traded or sold for not less than two seasons since the trade or sale, or
- (2) Been placed on waiver by the club to which he was sold or traded and was thereafter claimed on waiver by the original club, or
- (3) Become a free agent after the sale or trade and prior to reacquisition by the club originally selling or trading such player, or
- (4) Been on the Active List of another club in addition to the club obtaining such player under the first sale or trade, and then was reacquired by waiver, sale or trade with these additional provisions applicable if re-acquisition is by sale or trade:
- (a) If a player is traded or sold any time after the commencement of the annual trading period up to the opening of the regular season, the original club may not re-acquire such player by trade or sale in the same season until a total of four (4) regular season games shall have been played by the original club.
- (b) If a player is traded or sold after all clubs shall have played one regular season game, the original club may not re-acquire such player by trade or sale in the same season.

Conditional Trades

- (B) No trade may be made between member clubs in any season wherein the player traded may revert to or be traded back to the original club, unless through the normal procedure of trading, waiving, etc., as otherwise specified in this section and this Constitution and By-Laws.
- (C) All conditions affecting trades must be specified in the original notification to the Commissioner of the trade and in trade agreement papers. If no conditions are specified, the trade will be an outright transaction, and no appeal claiming that oral or other unstated conditions exist can be made to the Commissioner by any party to the trade.

Approval by the Commissioner

16.8 (A) No sale or trade by a club shall be binding unless approved by the Commissioner. Immediately following such approval, the Commissioner shall notify all clubs of such trade or sale.

(B) All sale or trade agreements between clubs must be in writing and filed with the Commissioner within fifteen (15) days following completion of such sale or trade. The League Office shall stamp the time of receipt on any sale or trade agreement immediately upon the filing thereof.

Inter-Conference Trading

16.9 There shall be no inter-conference trading of players until the day following the final post-season game, and beginning on that day and until the date of the final reduction in the player limit there shall be unrestricted trading of players between conferences which have been established by the league.

Trading from Inactive List

16.10 When a player on the Inactive List of a club is traded after 4:00 P.M., New York time, on the Thursday prior to the opening of the regular season, or at any time thereafter, such player must immediately be listed within the applicable player limit of the club to which he is traded.

ARTICLE XVII PLAYER LIMITS AND ELIGIBILITY

Player Limits

The following resolution was adopted by member clubs on September 1, 1976. Its provisions supersede all conflicting sections of this Constitution and By-Laws.

RESOLVED, that for 1976 only the Active List limit shall be 43 players, with the following provisions:

- 1. All clubs, with the exception of Seattle and Tampa Bay, shall reduce their Active Lists to a maximum of 43 players by 2:00 p.m., New York time, on Monday, September 6. The limits for Seattle and Tampa Bay shall be governed by the By-Law adopted on August 18, 1976.
- 2. The Pre-Season Inactive List shall terminate as of the 43-player cutdown, and any players on a club's Pre-Season Inactive List at that time shall be counted on the Active List, placed on Injured Reserve, traded, or placed on waivers.
- 3. The regular season Inactive List provided for in Section 17.4(A) of this Constitution and By-Laws shall not be in effect in 1976.

- 4. All active players shall be permitted to be in uniform and participate in each game, subject to the declaration requirements for Seattle and Tampa Bay in the By-Law adopted on August 18.
- 5. Players in an exempt status as members of the Chicago All-Star squad shall count against their respective clubs' Active Lists as of the final cutdown unless placed on Reserve, traded, or placed on waivers.
- 6. All waivers from the period of 4:01 p.m., New York time, on Thursday, September 2, through 4:00 p.m., New York time, on Thursday, September 9, shall be non-recallable.
- 7. Section 17.1(B) (3) of this Constitution and By-Laws shall remain in effect during 1976: "No claim on a player may be withdrawn by the claiming club whenever it involves a waiver that occurs after the reduction in the player limit to 49 active players."
- 8. The following rules shall be in effect with respect to Injured Reserve:
 - A. Players placed on Injured Reserve at any time after the opening of training camp in 1976 may not be re-activated under any circumstances by the same club in 1976, except that players from Injured Reserve who already have passed through no-recall waivers and been re-activated prior to September 1 may remain with their clubs. Any player placed on Injured Reserve may be placed on no-recall waivers and be awarded to a different club, but such player may not return to the club which placed him on Reserve.
 - B. On February 1, 1977, each club shall designate a maximum of three (3) players from its Injured Reserve List, which players shall be in the same status as other players under contract, i.e., they may be traded, waived, retained by the club, or affected by any other applicable rule. However, Injured Reserve players above the designated three shall be distinguished from the three in two respects, (i) such players may not be traded until after the 1977 season, and (ii) if the club chooses to ask waivers on such a player, the waivers shall be non-recallable.
 - C. All players on the Injured Reserve List may practice in regular sessions with the club as soon as physically able to do so.

- 9. Inter-conference trading for the season shall terminate at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on Wednesday, September 8.
- 10. Where any player contract awarded on waivers to another club contains a provision purporting to impose, or having the effect of imposing, financial obligations on the claiming club that were not imposed on the waiving club, the waiving club shall bear the ultimate financial responsibility for meeting such obligations.
- 11. Clubs are prohibited, after Wednesday, September 1, from re-negotiating, revising, altering or superseding any contract in a manner that would constitute a deterrent to claims of that contract by another club, e.g., "guaranteed" and "no trade" provisions. If such a contract is executed, the club may not subsequently waive the player in that season.
- 12. Any direct or indirect compensation or anything of value paid to a player who is not on the club's Active or Reserve Lists, regardless of whether the player participates in the club's practice sessions, shall constitute a competitive violation and the club and/or involved club employee shall be subject to disciplinary action under Section 8.13(A) (4) of this Constitution and By-Laws. Similarly, tryout provisions of Section 12.4(A) shall be strictly enforced, and any violations of this rule shall fall within the provisions of Section 8.13(A) (4).

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY THE CLUBS WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE WHATEVER COLLECTIVE BARGAINING OBLIGATIONS MAY EXIST WITH REGARD TO THIS SUBJECT.

Additional player limit provisions adopted for 1976 only:

(Adopted August 18, 1976)

For 1976 only, the following special provisions shall be in effect with respect to the player limits of Seattle and Tampa Bay:

1. If the Active List limit is established at 40 or more players, Seattle and Tampa Bay shall be allowed to carry six more players on its Active List than other clubs for the first two games of the regular season and two more players than other clubs thereafter.

- 2. If the Active List limit is established below 40 players, Seattle and Tampa Bay shall be allowed to carry three more players on its Active List than other clubs for the first two games of the regular season and one more player than other clubs thereafter.
- 3. Seattle and Tampa Bay shall declare to the League Office 72 hours in advance of each game in which they participate the players who will be in uniform and available to participate in such game, which players shall number no more than the prevailing Active List limit established for other clubs.
- 4. In reducing to the Active List limit at the final cutdown, Seattle and Tampa Bay will not be required to go below a number which is the sum of the Active List limit for other clubs plus the number of extra players allowed under either (1) or (2) above, whichever is applicable.
- 5. Seattle and Tampa Bay will not be required to reduce their rosters in any intermediate cutdowns between the establishment of the 60-man roster and the final cutdown.

(Adopted August 18, 1976)

RESOLVED, that all clubs, with the exception of Seattle and Tampa Bay, shall reduce their Active Lists to a maximum of 49 players by 4:00 p.m., New York time, on Tuesday, August 24.

That the Pre-Season Inactive List, which had been temporarily suspended at the beginning of the training scason, is now in effect, pending further action of the membership. And that further details of the 1976 roster limit shall be determined at a meeting of the League beginning on Wednesday, September 1, in New York City.

17.1 (A) Subject to the provisions of S17.3 of this article, beginning on the sixth Tuesday prior to the first regular season game of each year and continuing until the completion of the football season, no club shall have under contract more than sixty (60) active players and no player may play with any team unless an executed contract with that team is on file in the office of the Commissioner, pursuant to the provisions of S15.6 hereof. This number shall include all veteran players upon whom options have been exercised for the applicable year, except a veteran player discharged from the military service subsequent to June 1st in the applicable year.

17.1 (B) On or before 2 P.M. New York time, on the Tuesday prior to the first regular season game, the number of active players shall be reduced to thirty-six (36) or less.

Despite the foregoing, the following additional restrictions shall apply:

- 1. Whenever a player or players is or are waived and such action reduces the waiving club's roster to less than 44, the players waived in such manner must be designated as non-recallable until after 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the Thursday prior to the opening of the regular season.
- 2. Notwithstanding other provisions of this Constitution and By-Laws allowing recall of waiver requests under certain circumstances, the following rules are in effect with respect to waivers involving players who do not meet the physical standards of the club: Any waiver request on an injured player and any waiver request on a player who fails the club physical may not be recalled and no claim on any such player may be withdrawn.
- 3. No claim on a player may be withdrawn by the claiming club whenever it involves a waiver that occurs after the reduction in the player limit to 49 active players.
- 4. Any player who was an All-Star participant in the Chicago Tribune All-Star Game of that year, may be carried as an active player by the club without being counted until the player limit of 44 becomes applicable, despite the fact that such player competes in a pre-season game for the club.

Active List

17.2 The Active List, for the purposes of this article, shall consist of all players eligible to play in any pre-season, regular season, play-off, championship or post-season game then under contract to the club within the applicable player limit as set out in the preceding section. This Section 17.2, and succeeding Sections 17.3 and 17.4, are in force only within the provisions of the applicable player limit in a given year.

Players Under Contract

17.3 After the final reduction in the Active List limit to forty (40) players, a club shall have until 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the Thursday prior to the first regular season game to establish an overall limit of forty-seven (47) players under contract on its combined Active and Inactive Lists, which limit shall remain in effect for the balance of the regular season. During this period the Inactive List

may exceed seven (7) players, provided the Active List does not exceed 40 and the overall limit does not exceed 47. All other players under contract to a club must be listed on the Reserve List.

Inactive List

17.4 (A) After the establishment of the list of 47 players under contract, subject to the provisions of Section 17.3, a club shall be allowed to make an unlimited number of shifts between its Active List, which list shall include a maximum of 40 players, and Inactive List, which list shall include only players either under current or future contract, provided, however, that for a player to be eligible for such shift from the Inactive List to the Active List he must be signed to a current contract. No club may place a player from another club or a player signed from free agent status directly onto its Inactive List under future contract without that player having first been waived from a current contract since the close of the previous regular season. Each member club must once weekly declare its Inactive List of players who will not dress for its upcoming game. For all Saturday and Sunday games, such time will be by 2:00 p.m., New York time, on the day prior to the game. Then, by 4:00 p.m. New York time, on the day prior to the game, the Commissioner's Office will advise each member club of its opponent's Inactive List for the upcoming game. For games played on Mondays, notification time will be by 2:00 p.m., New York time, on the day of the game, and subsequent notification to the involved clubs by the Commissioner's Office will be 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the same day. For games played on Thursdays, notification to the Commissioner's Office will be by 4:00 p.m., New York time, on Wednesday, and subsequent notification to the involved clubs will be as soon as possible after 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday. One additional change may be made up to one hour prior to game time by notifying the game referee, provided, however, that the player designated as a game participant can only come from among those who had been designated as Inactive at the time of the requirements listed in this Section 17.4.

Any club which makes a roster change on game-day, subject to the provisions outlined above, also has the responsibility of confirming such change, by TWX, to the League Office the following day.

Notwithstanding the schedule outlined above for weekly declaration of the Inactive List during the regular season, the original establishment each season of the Inactive List shall be after 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the Thursday prior to the first regular season game.

Pre-Season Inactive List

17.4 (B) During the period from the first day of a club's training camp in any year and continuing through 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the Thursday prior to the first regular season game, a club may carry a maximum of three (3) players on its Inactive List, which

players must only be placed on such list for reason of injury and which players shall not count within the applicable Active List limit. Players placed on a club's Pre-Season Inactive List shall not be reactivated for a period of two (2) pre-season games or sixteen (16) days, whichever occurs first. There shall be no limit on the time a player may remain on the Pre-Season Inactive List. All other provisions of Section 17.4 (A) regarding day-of-game activations and contract status whenever a player moves onto the Active List shall apply to the Pre-Season Inactive List. Clubs which place players on the Pre-Season Inactive List shall, within 48 hours after such action, file with the League Office a TWX report stating the details of each injury which necessitated such de-activation.

Future List

- 17.5 (A) The Future List, for the purpose of this article, shall consist of all players under contract to a club for a succeeding year or years but not for the current year, with the exception of those on the Reserve List. The Future List is a category within the Inactive List during the regular season, and all players on the Future List at that time must be counted within the applicable player limit. No player may be placed on the Future List of a club without first having been waived from a current contract. Any player listed on the Future List of a club may play for a minor league club.
- (B) No player may practice with a club unless such player is signed to a contract with that club for the current or succeeding season or seasons. All contracts including contracts of players on the Future List must be filed with the Commissioner in accordance with the provisions of Section 15.3 hereof.

Returning to Former Club

- (C) Subject to the provisions of Article XVIII, no player who shall have been under contract to any member club of this League or a player who attended any workouts for a club may play football for the same club in this League until two (2) seasons, including the season in which he participates, shall have elapsed from the date said player participated for a League club; unless
- (1) In the same season the same club takes one of the following actions:
- (a) Player is released and is placed on that club's Inactive or Active List prior to the trading deadline of the season in which he is waived, or
- (b) Player is waived prior to the trading deadline but within 10 days of such date and the club places the player on its Inactive or Active List, but in any case the club shall have a total of 10 days in which to place such player on its Inactive or Active List, or

- (c) Player is waived after the trading deadline and the club places the player on its Inactive or Active List, such club being allowed ten (10) days in which to place the player on its Inactive or Active List.
- (2) Player is placed on the Active List of another club during the pre-season or regular season and subsequently waived by that club and becomes a free agent, or, player is traded to a club from which he has been waived. No player may return to the original playing club unless he has been active for at least one pre-season or regular season game.
- (3) Player, in the one succeeding season is signed by a club from which he has not been waived previously and is then released. However, in no event in the succeeding season may a player be signed by a club from which he has been waived previously unless after the date of the player reduction to 49, except that the club may sign such a player before the reduction to 49 and immediately place him on procedural recall waivers.
- (4) Player is re-signed by the original club during the off-season following the initial season and player is immediately placed on waivers, not to be recalled if said player is claimed. If said player is not claimed, he is automatically recalled. Such recall will be a procedural recall and will not prevent such club from later waiving such player once with right of recall. Additionally, there shall be no withdrawal of claims made under this sub-section.

Future to Injured Reserve

- (D) No player under a future contract may be placed on the Reserve List of the club to which he is under contract as injured unless:
 - (1) All member clubs waive on such player, or
- (2) The club of such player continues to count such player in the applicable player limit, or
- (3) The club receives special permission of Commissioner to place player on Reserve List. All expenses incurred in any investigation hereof must be borne by the involved club.

Reserve List

- 17.6 The Reserve List of each club may consist of players in the following categories:
 - (A) Retired
 - (B) Did not report
 - (C) Left squad (quit team)
 - (D) Injured
- (E) Physically unable to perform (At the time of the training camp physical)

- (F) N-F/I (Non-football injury or illness)
- (G) In military
- (H) Selected in Selection Meeting by the club, but never under contract

(I) Suspended or declared ineligible, or expelled from the League for violation of the contract between the player and the club, or for other reasons permitted by this Constitution and By-Laws.

Players placed on Reserve in the manner prescribed in (A), (B), (G) and (I) may apply to the Commissioner for reinstatement. Players placed on Reserve under (C) shall be governed by the provisions of Article 17.16 (C). Players placed on Reserve under (D), or (F), can only be activated in the same season by being placed on no-recall waivers. Players placed on Reserve under (E) are subject to the provisions of Article 12.3 (F). Players on Reserve under (H) may be activated upon signing.

A player on a club's Reserve List shall not be eligible to contract with any other club unless and until the player is released or his contract assigned as provided in this Constitution and By-Laws.

Reserve List Limitations

- 17.7 (A) Any player on the Active List of the club who reports to the club and is thereafter placed on the Reserve List by reasons other than military service, may not play with his club for the balance of that pre-season or regular season unless waivers have been asked on such player, which waivers may not be recalled; provided, however, that if such player becomes an Active Player with another club and such other club thereafter asks waivers on him, and he is either claimed, released on waivers or plays with another club in its league in that season, then the original club is entitled to restore such player to its Active List if it acquires him in a manner permitted by this Constitution and By-Laws or in those of the League. If another club acquires such player from the Reserve List of another club by means of a trade following the establishment of 60 active players, such player cannot play for the acquiring club for the balance of that season unless the acquiring club waives such player without recall.
- (B) Additional Reserve List limitations: Whenever a player on the Active List or the Inactive List is placed on the Reserve List as an injured player, the following provisions shall apply:
 - (1) The player may attend the team meetings.
- (2) Subject to sub-paragraph (4) below, such player may not participate in practice with any other active player or players on the club.
- (3) He may undertake such physical reconditioning or rehabilitation work as prescribed by the club doctor or trainer with the understanding that such right to engage in such reconditioning and rehabilitation activities does not permit the player to practice or participate with any other Active Player or Players.